

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-57 (cancelled)

58. (currently amended) A composition for increasing carnitine retention in ~~the~~ animal and/or human ~~biological tissue~~ skeletal muscle, the composition comprising a carnitine substance and an agent to increase blood/plasma insulin concentration.

59. (currently amended) A composition for use in the manufacture of a medicament to influence carnitine retention in ~~the~~ animal and/or human ~~biological tissue~~ skeletal muscle, the composition comprising a carnitine substance and an agent to stimulate insulin release in the body.

60. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the agent is operable to increase sodium dependent carnitine uptake into ~~tissue cells, in particular skeletal muscle,~~ liver and/or kidney cells skeletal muscle.

61. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the agent is operable to increase insulin activity in the ~~tissue~~ skeletal muscle.

62. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 61 wherein the agent is operable to increase insulin activity in ~~the tissue~~ skeletal muscle by increasing the amount of insulin in the blood/plasma.

63. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the agent comprises a ~~carbohydrate, and/or an active derivative thereof,~~ carbohydrate and/or an amino acid and/or a protein.

64. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 63 wherein the agent is ~~a carbohydrate and/or a derivative of a~~ carbohydrate.

65. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 63 wherein the carbohydrate is a ~~simple carbohydrate, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of a~~ simple carbohydrate.

66. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 64 wherein the carbohydrate is a ~~simple sugar, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of a~~ simple sugar.

67. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 65 wherein the carbohydrate comprises glucose, sucrose, ~~and/or fructose, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of glucose, sucrose and/or fructose.~~

68. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 150 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

69. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 95 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

70. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 58 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 40 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

71. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 450g of the agent.

72. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 285g of the agent.

73. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 58 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 120g of the agent.

74. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 58 in the form of a solution.

75. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 58 in the form of an aqueous solution.

76. (previously presented) A food supplement comprising a carnitine substance and an agent to increase blood/plasma insulin concentration.

77. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the agent is operable to increase sodium dependent carnitine uptake into ~~tissue cells, in particular skeletal muscle, liver and/or kidney cells~~ skeletal muscle.

78. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the agent is operable to increase insulin activity in ~~the tissue~~ skeletal muscle.

79. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 78 wherein the agent is operable to increase the insulin activity in ~~the tissue~~ skeletal muscle by increasing the amount of insulin in the blood/plasma.

80. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the agent comprises a ~~carbohydrate, and/or an active derivative thereof~~ carbohydrate and/or an amino acid and/or a protein.

81. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 80 wherein the agent is ~~a carbohydrate and/or a derivative of a~~ carbohydrate.

82. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 80 wherein the carbohydrate is a ~~simple carbohydrate and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of a~~ simple carbohydrate.

83. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 82 wherein the carbohydrate is a ~~simple sugar, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of a~~ simple sugar.

84. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 81 wherein the carbohydrate comprises glucose, sucrose ~~and/or fructose, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate comprises a derivative of glucose, sucrose and/or fructose~~.

85. (previously presented) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 150 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

86. (previously presented) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 95 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

87. (previously presented) A food supplement according to claim 76 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 40 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

88. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 450g of the agent.

89. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 285g of the agent.

90. (currently amended) A food supplement according to claim 76 comprising ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 120g of the agent.

91. (previously presented) A food supplement according to claim 76 in the form of a solution.

92. (previously presented) A food supplement according to claim 76 in the form of an aqueous solution.

93. (currently amended) A method of increasing carnitine retention in the animal and/or human ~~biological tissue~~ skeletal muscle, the method comprising administering to the body a carnitine substance and an agent to increase blood/plasma insulin concentration.

94. (currently amended) A method according to claim 93 wherein the method increase carnitine retention in the tissue by increasing the transportation of the carnitine substance, or a derivative thereof into ~~tissue~~ skeletal muscle cells.

95. (previously presented) A method according to claim 94 wherein transportation is increased by stimulation of a sodium dependent transport protein and substantially simultaneously increasing blood/plasma carnitine concentration.

96. (currently amended) A method according to claims 93 wherein the agent is operable to increase sodium dependent carnitine uptake into ~~tissue cells, in particular skeletal muscle, liver and/or kidney cells.~~ skeletal muscle.

97. (currently amended) A method according to claim 93 wherein the agent is operable to increase insulin activity in ~~the tissue~~ skeletal muscle.

98. (currently amended) A method according to claim 97 wherein the agent is operable to increase insulin activity in ~~the tissue~~ skeletal muscle by increasing the amount of insulin in the blood/plasma.

99. (currently amended) A method according to claim 93 wherein the agent comprises a carbohydrate, and/or ~~an active derivative thereof, and/or~~ an amino acid and/or a protein.

100. (currently amended) A method according to claim 99 wherein the agent is ~~a carbohydrate and/or a derivative of a~~ carbohydrate.

101. (currently amended) A method according to claim 99 wherein the carbohydrate is ~~a simple carbohydrate, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of~~ a simple carbohydrate.

102. (currently amended) A method according to claim 101 wherein the carbohydrate is ~~a simple sugar, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of~~ a simple sugar.

103. (currently amended) A method according to claim 101 wherein the carbohydrate comprises glucose, sucrose ~~and/or fructose, and/or the derivative of the carbohydrate is a derivative of~~ glucose, sucrose and/or fructose.

104. (previously presented) A method according to claim 93 wherein the method involves oral administration and ingestion of the carnitine substance and agent.

105. (previously presented) A method according to claim 104 wherein the oral administration and ingestion of the carnitine substance and the agent occurs simultaneously.

106. (previously presented) A method according to claim 93 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 150 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

107. (previously presented) A method according to claim 93 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 95 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

108. (previously presented) A method according to claim 94 wherein the amount by weight of the agent is between 10 and 40 times the amount by weight of the carnitine substance.

109. (currently amended) A method according to claim 93 wherein ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g of the carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 450g of the agent are administered.

110. (previously presented) A method according to claim 87 when ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g of the carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 285g of the agent are administered.

111. (currently amended) A method according to claim 93 wherein ~~substantially~~ 0.25g to 3g of the carnitine substance and between 2.5g and 120g of the agent are administered.